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Document No.

CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

as CHANGED TO:

DDA Memo, 4 p. 1/77

ith: DDA REG. 7771783

ate: 1/64/78

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

25X1 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 25X1 REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

Germany (Russian Zone)/Russia

SUBJECT

Moscow-Berlin Policy Conflicts

25X1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF INFO

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 6 April 1948

NO. OF PAGES

NO. OF ENCLS. 38384
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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Russia is not planning hostilities against the USA, and will evade the war which Americans are expected to seek as a result of an economic crisis this summer. This may mean that they are willing to make political concessions outside Germany, and possibly also concessions for German currency reform.

2. The present tension between the SMA and the SED is reported to be a result of the activity of persons in Moscow who advocate the elimination of the SED.

3. Walter Ulbricht added that the struggle of the progressive world against reactionary capitalism is concentrated in Berlin. When Europe is progressive and democratic it may take only months to gain the rest of the world, but the signal for victory or defeat will be given in Berlin.

4. Gerhard Obermüller was sent from Moscow to Berlin last year by the National Komite Freies Deutschland (NKFD) to be sports organizer after the founding of the German Freedom Party and to work in the Ministry of Health. The plans were changed, however, because Moscow decided that the People's Congress, and the Unity Party which would rise from it, would be a better instrument to win the German masses. Members of the NKFD will play an essential part in the new movement which is planned and in the People's Congress.

5. The new Russian policy guided by Zhdanov aims at establishing a rump Germany which will be treated by the Russians as a sovereign state. This is opposed by the SMA. Obermüller alleges that there is much confusion resulting from this disagreement between the SMA and the Politburo. The SMA and the SED invented the Economic Commission to exercise the power which the Politburo intended to give to the "Freies Deutschland" committee. Sokolovski was rebuked for this by the Foreign Ministry, which supervises NKFD members in Germany. Rivalry and extreme tension is reported to exist between NKFD men and SED leaders.

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